

Concept Note

1 September 2025



CALL FOR 10 SMALL GRANTS: International Drug Users Day 2025, “We are Here! We are Proud! Unshaken, Unbroken and Loud.”

BACKGROUND

The International Drug Users Day marked an important milestone in the drug user’s rights movement, where the International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD), which was founded in 2006 in Vancouver, Canada, was formally launched in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 1 November 2008.

Every year, on 1 November, people who use drugs all over the world celebrate our history and affirm our rights. The International Drug Users Day provides a platform where drug user activists and our community can confidently and proudly advocate for the health, human rights, and dignity of people who use drugs globally, regionally, and at the country level. The International Drug Users Day is a celebration of the accomplishments of our diverse, vibrant communities, while also acknowledging that our work is more critical than ever.

INTERNATIONAL DRUG USERS DAY 2025

Under the theme “**We are Here! We are Proud! Unshaken, Unbroken, and Loud**”, this year, we continue to reaffirm our **existence and persistence**. In the face of the ongoing and widespread criminalisation, stigma, discrimination, and the growing **anti-rights backlash**, including the rollback of drug decriminalisation, such as in Oregon, the United States, and British Columbia, Canada, we continue to stand tall and refuse to be erased. The current global political and funding crisis has shaken our community, but it has not broken us. Instead, it has revealed **our resilience**: rising from the ashes, looking out for one another, and refusing to be silenced. We carry our **dignity with pride**, demanding **healthcare, social justice, and human rights**: from harm reduction services to access to housing, from safety to justice and freedom. We build **solidarity** across local, national, regional, and global spaces. Together, with one united voice, we **challenge the status quo** and push forward with our common goal: **ending the prohibition and criminalisation of people who use drugs and the drugs we use**.

This year, INPUD would like to celebrate the International Drug Users Day 2025 and recognise 10 (ten) drug user-led networks/organisations with a small grant of **US\$500**.

THE SMALL GRANT

INPUD will provide a small grant of US\$500 to 10 (ten) drug user-led networks/organisations from around the world to celebrate International Drug Users Day 2025. We would like to hear from you and read your creative ideas in celebrating our existence, persistence, dignity, pride, resilience, and noise.



International Network of People *who* Use Drugs



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[@INPUD](https://twitter.com/INPUD)



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Submit your proposal and ideas by completing the application form: <https://tinyurl.com/2rpewu7j>

The deadline to submit your small grant proposal is 21 September 2025.

You will be directly informed and contacted via email if your proposal is successful. However, due to the anticipated high number of applications, we are unable to notify everyone whose proposal is not successful.

Even if your proposal has not been selected, we still encourage you to participate and engage in the International Drug Users Day 2025.

INPUD will provide the graphics and visual materials that you can use in your activities. Therefore, it is not necessary to create your own design.

ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA

To apply for the small grant for the 2025 International Drug Users Day, **you must**:

Who can apply

- Be a **drug user-led network, organisation, or collective** anywhere in the world.
 - Formal registration is ***not*** required.
 - Groups led by women, gender-diverse people, and young people who use drugs are strongly encouraged.
 - **Individuals cannot apply.**
- **Regional networks/organisations** can apply if the proposal:
 - Explains the activities,
 - States the countries where they will happen, and
 - Shows how national drug user-led groups will be involved.

What you need

- Fill out the application form by **21 September 2025**: <https://tinyurl.com/2rpewu7j>
- Have a **bank account** (personal or organisational) that can receive international wire transfers (Western Union is also accepted).
- Have at least **one member** from your network/organisation **subscribed** to the INPUD or INWUD e-lists.

What to do

- Organise and promote your activity on **1 November 2025**, including through INPUD's social media and website.



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- The **safety** and **security** of everyone **must be prioritised**. Ensure that you obtain **consent** before using, sharing, or distributing images, videos, or graphics.

Sharing back

- By **30 November 2025**, send us:
 - A **short narrative report** of your activity, and
 - A **financial report** with receipts or proof of payments.
 - INPUD will provide you with a template for both the narrative and the financial report.

INPUD reserves the right to use the images, pictures, videos, publications, and other media to promote the 2025 International Drug Users Day and amplify the voices of the drug users' rights movement in INPUD's future advocacy activities. INPUD will provide a credit for the content creator(s) whenever we use these materials.

We look forward to receiving your great ideas and proposals! Good luck and take it easy, don't be too serious. We are **celebrating**!

**WE ARE HERE! WE ARE PROUD! UNSHAKEN,
UNBROKEN, AND LOUD.**



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